Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Are not the Government spending Rs. 50 per mile for deepening the river in a certain place?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: That is being done for maintaining a channel.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: May I know whether the channel once opened up will be improved next year on account of it being silted up?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: Yes, Sir.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Will not the removal of silt in the Alwaye river where people flock, make it a better health resort?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: I do not think so.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: May I know whether water of the Alwaye river is utilised by other places?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: Yes, Sir.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: Is it in any way responsible for diminution of water in the river at Alwaye?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: Not to any appreciable extent.

Construction of the Alwaye bridge.

5. ***Mr. N. V. Chacko**: Will the Government be pleased to state when the construction of the Alwaye bridge is expected to be over and the bridge made available for purposes of traffic?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: The end of 1114 M. E.

Destruction of crops by floods in Kunnatnad, Muvattupuzha and Parur.

6. ***Mr. N. V. Chacko**: Will the Government be pleased to state the average amount of destruction of crops in paddy lands owing to floods every year in the taluks of Kunnatnad, Muvattupuzha and Parur?

Mr. K. George (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): No statistics are available.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath: May I know whether it is the practice of Government to grant remission of tax on account of floods?

Mr. K. George: No. There has been no such case so far as I remember for remission of tax on that ground.

Mr. K. M. Korah (*Vaikom, Kottayam and Changanacherry cum Peermade*): May I know why it is said that no statistics are available in regard to destruction of crops owing to floods?

Mr. K. George: I asked for information from the Peishkars about the matter. They reported that they have no information.

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Mr. N. V. Chacko: May I know, have Government tried to collect statistics in regard to the destruction of crops in any other taluk?

Mr. K. George: No, Sir.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Are not the Government receiving a report from Peishkars about the destruction of crops owing to floods?

Mr. K. George: If any specific case is brought to the notice of Government, that petition is referred to the Peishkar for report. In the season reports, sometimes reference is made to the failure of crops.

Petition by Mr. Ipe Varughese and others of Idayar praying for remission of land revenue.

7. ***Mr. N. V. Chacko:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they received a petition from Mr. Ipe Varughese, Kunnummel, Ex. S. M. P. A. Member, Idayar, Koothattukulam, and others of Idayar Kara in the Muvattupuzha taluk in or near Tulam 1113, complaining that all their cultivation for Kanni and Makaram 1113 have been destroyed by drought and too much rains, praying that they may be granted a remission of land revenue and requesting the attention of the departments of Agriculture and Irrigation to their locality; and

(*b*) what action has been taken on that petition?

Mr. K. George: (*a*) No.

(*b*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

Mr. N. V. Chacko: May I know whether any petition was received by Government or the department in the matter?

Mr. K. George: No petition was received either by Government or the Land Revenue Commissioner in the matter.

Revenue copyists in Taluk Office.

8. ***Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar:** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing.

(*a*) the total number of revenue copyists serving in the year 1112 in the various Taluk Offices in the State;

(*b*) the amount realised as copying fees for being paid to the copyists; and

(*c*) the average amount paid to the copyists (revenue) per mensem as writing fees in the year 1112?

Mr. K. George: (*a*), (*b*), & (*c*). The *statement required is placed on the table.

*Vide Appendix I.—page 55

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